



**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

August 23, 2019

Mr. James Kopp  
Assistant City Attorney  
City of San Antonio  
P. O. Box 839966  
San Antonio, Texas 78283-3966

OR2019-23584

Dear Mr. Kopp:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Public Information Act (the "Act"), chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 782124 (ORR# W267660).

The San Antonio Police Department (the "department") received a request for a specified 9-1-1 call recording. The department claims the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the claimed exception and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Gov't Code § 552.101. This section encompasses chapter 772 of the Health and Safety Code, which authorizes the development of local emergency communication districts. Sections 772.118, 772.218, and 772.318 of the Health and Safety Code apply only to an emergency 9-1-1 district established in accordance with chapter 772. See Open Records Decision No. 649 (1996). These statutes make confidential the originating telephone numbers and addresses of 9-1-1 callers that are furnished by a service supplier. *Id.* at 2. Section 772.218 applies to an emergency communication district for a county with a population of more than 1.5 million. See Health and Safety Code § 772.204. The city represents the emergency communication district here is subject to section 772.218. Therefore, the city must withhold the originating telephone number of a 9-1-1 caller in the submitted information under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 772.218 of the Health and Safety Code if it was furnished by a 9-1-1 service provider.


Section 552.101 of the Government Code also encompasses the doctrine of common-law privacy, which protects information that is (1) highly intimate or embarrassing, the publication of which would be highly objectionable to a reasonable person, and (2) not of legitimate concern to the public. *Indus. Found. v. Tex. Indus. Accident Bd.*, 540 S.W.2d 668, 685 (Tex. 1976). To demonstrate the applicability of common-law privacy, both prongs of this test must be satisfied. *Id.* at 681-82. Types of information considered intimate and embarrassing by the Texas Supreme Court are delineated in the *Industrial Foundation* decision. *Id.* at 683. Additionally, this office has concluded some kinds of medical information are generally highly intimate or embarrassing. See Open Records Decision No. 455 (1987). Upon review, we find some of the remaining information, which we have indicated, satisfies the standard articulated by the Texas Supreme Court in the *Industrial Foundation* decision. Accordingly, the department must withhold the information we have indicated under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy. However, the remaining information is not confidential under common-law privacy, and the department may not withhold it under section 552.101 on that ground.

In summary, the city must withhold the originating telephone number of a 9-1-1 caller in the submitted information under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 772.218 of the Health and Safety Code if it was furnished by a 9-1-1 service provider. The department must also withhold the information we have indicated under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy. The department must release the remaining information.

This letter ruling is limited to the particular information at issue in this request and limited to the facts as presented to us; therefore, this ruling must not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other information or any other circumstances.

This ruling triggers important deadlines regarding the rights and responsibilities of the governmental body and of the requestor. For more information concerning those rights and responsibilities, please visit our website at <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open-government/members-public/what-expect-after-ruling-issued> or call the OAG's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Public Information Act may be directed to the Cost Rules Administrator of the OAG, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,



James L. Coggeshall  
Assistant Attorney General  
Open Records Division

JLC/jxd

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Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor  
(w/o enclosures)